

MAY 26 1948

Approved For Release 2009/01/28 : CIA-RDP83-00415R000500090017-8

① F

SECRET

REFERENCE CENTER LIB

This is UNEVALUATED Information

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/USSR

SUBJECT Czechoslovak Construction of Strip Mill

DIST. 3 December 1947

25X1

1. On 17 October 1947, representatives of the Czechoslovak Ministry for Industry and the Czechoslovak National Bank held a special conference, apparently at the request of Prime Minister Gottwald. At this conference Gottwald presented an ultimatum for the immediate construction in Czechoslovakia of a strip mill for the production of strip steel indispensable in the manufacture of products pressed from cold steel, such as tanks, trucks, automobiles, etc.

25X1

2. According to Gottwald's plans, the strip mill is to be capable of producing 350,000 metric tons per year, which is far in excess of Czechoslovakia's own annual requirements of 50,000 tons. As Czechoslovakia does not possess official raw materials, it is presumed that the ore will be supplied by the USSR, and that the surplus of finished products will be returned to that country.

25X1

Comments: [redacted] "Early in November 1947, the USSR paid eleven million dollars to Czechoslovakia for accumulated transportation services across that country. [redacted]"

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

DEC 10 1947

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET

Approved For Release 2009/01/28 : CIA-RDP83-00415R000500090017-8